

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3788

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 9238

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: MNUC, TECP, PK, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH REPROCESSING PLANT FOR PAKISTAN

REF: STATE 217558

1. SHAHI VISIT AND REPROCESSING DISCUSSION SEEM TO HAVE GONE ACCORDING TO FRENCH SCRIPT AND, AT THE VERY LEAST, WE HAVE BOUGHT SOME MORE TIME. FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ASSUME FRENCH WILL TELL US NO EQUIPMENT/TECHNOLOGY HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED SINCE AUG 4.

2. OUR IMMEDIATE PROBLEM, AS FLAGGED BY AMBASSADOR HARTMAN, IS HOW TO HANDLE THE GLENN AMENDMENT. PREVIOUSLY WE HAD RECOMMENDED MOVING AHEAD ON AID LOANS TO AVOID ECONOMIC SANCTIONS BECOMING A CAMPAIGN ISSUE. HOWEVER, THE FRENCH INITIATIVE, SHAHI'S REACTION AND THE PUBLIC STANCE TAKEN BY GOP AND GOF FOLLOWING THE PARIS TALKS CONSIDERABLY CHANGE THE CONTEXT. IF WE GO AHEAD WITH LOANS WE FACE TWO PROBLEMS: (1) GENERATING AN ELECTION CONTROVERSY IN PAKISTAN THAT WE HAVE SOMEHOW FORCED THE GOF AND GOP TO BACK DOWN ON THE AGREEMENT (AS FEARED BY SHAHI) AND THEREBY POSSIBLY JEOPARDIZING FRENCH INITIATIVE; AND (2) HAVING TO RATIONALIZE PUBLICLY AND ON THE HILL NEW AID AGREEMENTS IN THE

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FACE OF THE FIRM REITERATION IN PARIS THAT THE REPROCESSING AGREEMENT IS GOING FORWARD, AND POSSIBLY IN THE FACE OF PUBLICIZED NEW SHIPMENTS.

3. AGHA SHAHI LEAVES ISLAMABAD SEPT 17 FOR NEW YORK. FOLLOWING COULD BE CONVEYED BY ME IN ISLAMABAD BEFORE THAT, OR AFTERWARDS IN NEW YORK.

--WE HAVE HEARD FRENCH REPORT OF CONVERSATIONS IN PARIS.
--WE HAD HOPES OF GETTING USG APPROVAL FOR NEW AID
INPUTS UNDER GLENN AMENDMENT. WE UNDERSTAND AGHA SHAHI
DOES NOT WICH TO HAVE USG MOVE IN THIS WAY. WE WILL
AVOID GIVING GOP POLITICAL PROBLEMS, BUT HE SHOULD KNOW
WE HAD BELIEVED IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE
UNDER GLENN AMENDMENT, PUBLICLY EXPLAINABLE WITHOUT
REFERENCE TO ANY FRENCH PROPOSAL, FOR US TO APPROVE
NEW AID INPUTS.
SHOULD SHAHI ARGUE THAT GOP WANTS TO
PROCEED WITH LOANS, I PROPOSE TO RESPOND:
--WE UNDERSTAND AGHA SHAHI HAD REQUESTED SOME SHIPMENT
OF TECHNOLOGY/EQUIPMENT BEFORE PAKISTANI ELECTIONS.
WE HOPE HE CAN RECONSIDER, BECAUSE SUCH SHIPMENT WOULD
RUN RISK OF TRIGGERING US LEGISLATIVE SANCTIONS
UNDER GLENN AMENDMENT--SANCTIONS WE HAD GOOD HOPES WE
COULD AVOID IF NO FURTHER SHIPMENTS ARE MADE IN THE
NEAR FUTURE.
--OTHER US ACTIVITIES ARE ALSO UNDER WAY IN FIELDS NOT
AFFECTED BY LANGUAGE OF GLENN AMENDMENT: PL-480,
NARCOTICS CONTROL, ARMS SALES.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT AID/W HAS TAKEN ACTIONS TO
EFFECTIVELY OBLIGATE ALL LOAN FUNDS FOR PAKISTAN (BUT
NOT GRANTS), SO THAT MAJOR US AID INCLUDING \$25 MILLION
FOR AGRICULTURAL INPUTS (FERTILIZER) COULD BE SIGNED
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AFTER ELECTIONS (AND AFTER NEW FISCAL YEAR) USING
FY-77 FUNDS. IF SO, WE HOPE AID WILL NOT RE-PROGRAM
THOSE MONIES IN HOPE OF USING FY-78 FUNDS; LATTER COURSE
WOULD WE UNDERSTAND RESULT IN NEW CONGRESSIONAL
NOTIFICATIONS AND POSSIBLY NEW HEARINGS, AND ALSO WOULD
IMPACT ON PLANNED FY-78 PROGRAMS SOON TO RECEIVE
CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

5. FINALLY, IF WE DO POSTPONE FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF
AID LOANS, I HOPE IT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT
PUBLICITY. SHOULD THERE BY ANY, OUR PUBLIC POSTURE
SHOULD BE ALONG THE LINES THAT WE ARE EXAMINING THE
IMPLICATIONS OF THE GLENN AMENDMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF
THE PAKISTANI-FRENCH AGREEMENT, BUT NO DECISIONS HAVE
BEEN TAKEN.

6. DEPT PLEASE PASS TO PARIS.
HUMMEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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